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GARSTANG
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND OF THE
Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE YEAR
1951



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GARSTANG
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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AND OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1951



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Chairman of the Council :

COUNCILLOR GEORGE C. THORNTON, J.P.

Public Health Committee :

THE WHOLE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR W. NICHOLSON.

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR H. THORNTON.

Clerk of the Council :

H. BOND, A.C.C.S.

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time) :

ANDREW B. TAYLOR, M.B., CH.B.

Sanitary Inspector :

A. SMITHSON, CERT.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant to Sanitary Inspector :

J. B. COOK.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1951.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Garstang Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Eleventh Annual Report of the health in the Garstang Rural Area in respect of the year ended 31st December, 1951, together with the vital statistics relating to that period.

The general health of the District continues to be satisfactory.

There have been no serious outbreaks of infectious diseases during the past year, and no cases of Acute Poliomyelitis.

Although no case of Diphtheria has been notified in the area since 1947, it is regretted that the number of children attending for immunisation has decreased. Every effort should be made to encourage all parents to have their children immunised against this disease.

It is also urged that children should be vaccinated against smallpox, as the risk of this infectious disease is more real now in view of air transport and the number of returning service personnel from the Far East.

In connection with housing, a gradual improvement in the rate of building has taken place and as will be seen from the report, 79 houses were erected, of which 68 were for the Council.

There have been a number of complaints from members of the public regarding the condition of certain ditches which may prove prejudicial to good health in the Parishes concerned. This is to be deprecated and it is recommended that the Council should give urgent consideration to these nuisances.

I would like to express my thanks to the Sanitary Inspector and staff of the Health department, also the Clerk of the Council, for their co-operation and assistance during the past year.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

ANDREW B. TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

| | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| Position ... | Latitude 53° 54" North. | Longitude 2° 47" West |
| Elevation above sea level ... | 0 feet to 1,675 feet | |
| Geological formation ... | Eastern Highlands—Millstone grit Western Lowlands—Glacial clay on triassic sandstone with patches of alluvium. | |
| Chief Industries carried on in the Area ... | Mainly Agricultural and Poultry Farming; Market Gardening; Milk Processing and Cheese Making; Tex- tile Manufacturing; Paper Making and a few light industries. A number of men are employed in the building trades, and a number of residents are employed in the neighbouring towns. | |
| Area (Acres) ... | ... | 57,189 |
| Population (Census 1931) ... | ... | 11,562 |
| Registrar-General's Estimated mid-year Home Population, 1951 | ... | 12,610 |
| Persons per Acre ... | ... | ·22 |
| Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931) ... | ... | 2,773 |
| Number of Inhabited Houses end of 1951 according to Rate Books ... | ... | 3,730 |
| Rateable Value ... | ... | £77,962 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate ... | ... | £310 |

VITAL STATISTICS.

| | | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| Live Births | Legitimate ... | 207 | 116 | 91 |
| | Illegitimate ... | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| | Total ... | 209 | 117 | 92 |
| Still births... | ... | 7 | 2 | 5 |
| Deaths | ... | 172 | 72 | 100 |

DEATHS OF INFANTS under 1 year of age.

| | | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> |
|--------------|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| Legitimate | ... | 5 | 1 | 4 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| | | 5 | 1 | 4 |

DEATHS OF INFANTS
under 4 weeks of age.

| | | | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> |
|--------------|-----|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| Legitimate | ... | ... | 4 | ... | 4 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| | | | — | — | — |
| | | | 4 | ... | 4 |
| | | | — | — | — |

| Year | Live births | | Deaths (all causes) | | Stillbirths | | Maternal Mortality | | Infant Mortality | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| | | | | | | | | | Total | | Neo-natal | |
| | No. regis- tered | Rate per 1,000 pop'n. | No. regis- tered | Rate per 1,000 pop'n. | No. regis- tered | Rate per 1,000 total births | No. of deaths regis- tered | Rate per 1,000 total births | No. of deaths regis- tered | Rate per 1,000 live births | No. of deaths regis- tered | Rate per 1,000 live births |
| 1951 | 209 | *16.6 | 172 | *13.6 | 7 | 32 | — | — | 5 | 24 | 4 | 19 |
| 1950 | 186 | 14.8 | 150 | 11.9 | 6 | 31 | 1 | 5.21 | 4 | 22 | 1 | 5 |
| 1949 | 181 | 14.4 | 146 | 11.6 | 10 | 52 | 2 | 10.47 | 7 | 39 | ... | ... |
| 1948 | 196 | 15.4 | 157 | 12.3 | 6 | 29 | ... | ... | 6 | 30 | ... | ... |
| 1947 | 216 | 17.8 | 152 | 12.5 | 5 | 22 | ... | ... | 9 | 41 | ... | ... |
| 1946 | 192 | 16.3 | 143 | 12.1 | 3 | 15 | 1 | 5.12 | 7 | 36 | ... | ... |
| Ave. 5 years 1946-1950 | ... | 15.7 | ... | 12.1 | ... | 30 | ... | 4.00 | ... | 34 | ... | ... |

* Adjusted $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{live birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.07) = 17.7 per 1,000.} \\ \text{death-rate (comparability factor, 0.97) = 13.2 per 1,000.} \end{array} \right.$

BIRTHS.

There were 209 live births, 117 being males and 92 females. 207 of these births were legitimate and 2 were illegitimate. The birth rate per 1,000 of the population was 16.6, against 15.5 for England and Wales.

STILL BIRTHS.

The number of still births in 1951 was 7, giving a still birth rate of 32 per 1,000 live births. The rate per 1,000 total population is 0.55 as compared with a rate of 0.36 for England and Wales.

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths was 172 comprising 72 males and 100 females, giving a death rate of 13.6 per 1,000 of the population. Not since 1945 has the death rate been so high. For England and Wales the rate is 12.5.

The death rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births is 24 ; the death rate of legitimate infants is 24 and of illegitimate infants is nil. For England and Wales, the death rate is 29.6.

Neo-natal mortality—deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age, 4. Mortality rate per 1,000 live births, 19.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

| | | | | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Tuberculosis, respiratory | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Malignant neoplasm | ... | ... | ... | 9 | 10 | 19 |
| Diabetes... | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Vascular lesions of nervous system | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 12 | 17 |
| Heart Diseases | ... | ... | ... | 28 | 44 | 72 |
| Influenza | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| Pneumonia | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Bronchitis | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 7 | 13 |
| Other diseases of respiratory system... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| Hyperplasia of prostate | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Congenital malformations | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Other defined and ill-defined diseases | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 8 | 16 |
| Motor Vehicle accidents | ... | ... | ... | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| All other accidents | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| | | | | <u>72</u> | <u>100</u> | <u>172</u> |

TUBERCULOSIS—

New Cases and Mortality during 1951

| Age Periods | | New Cases | | | | Deaths | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----------|-----|---------------|-----|-----------|-----|---------------|-----|
| | | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | |
| Years | | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 1—5 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 5—10 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 10—15 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 15—20 | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 20—25 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 25—35 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... |
| 35—45 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... |
| 45—55 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 55—65 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| 65 and upwards | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Totals | | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | ... | 2 | ... | ... |
| | | 5 | | 4 | | 2 | | 0 | |

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1951.

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED AND AGES.

| DISEASE | Total No. of Cases | Under 1 | 1— | 3— | 5— | 10— | 15— | 25— | 45— | 65 and over | Cases removed to Hospital |
|--------------------|--------------------------|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Scarlet Fever ... | 4 | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Pneumonia ... | 43 | ... | 1 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 12 | ... |
| Measles ... | 62 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 33 | 9 | ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... |
| Whooping Cough ... | 12 | ... | 2 | 5 | 5 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Erysipelas ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... |
| Dysentery ... | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Food Poisoning ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| TOTALS ... | 126 | 2 | 11 | 18 | 45 | 16 | 4 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 3 |

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SCARLET FEVER—Four cases notified during 1951, against five in 1950.

DIPHTHERIA—Once again it is a pleasure to place on record the fact that no case of Diphtheria was notified during the year.

PNEUMONIA—Shows an increase of 25 on the previous year.

POLIOMYELITIS—No case of Poliomyelitis was notified during the year.

MEASLES—An increase of 39 cases.

WHOOPING COUGH—12 cases were notified during the year as against 25 in 1950.

ERYSIPELAS—Two cases against one for 1950.

DYSENTERY—Two cases were notified during the year, compared with none for 1950.

FOOD POISONING—One case of Food Poisoning, a child aged 2, was notified and removed to hospital. In this case, *S. typhi murium* was isolated.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA.

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the District is under the administration of the Lancashire County Council Health Division Nos. 3 and 4, as under :

HEALTH DIVISION 3 : Parishes of :—

| | | |
|-----------|---------------|---------|
| Hambleton | Out Rawcliffe | Pilling |
| | Stalmine | |

HEALTH DIVISION 4 : Parishes of :—

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Barnacre-with-Bonds | Bilsborrow | Bleasdale |
| Cabus | Catterall | Claughton |
| Forton | Garstang | Great Eccleston |
| Inskip-with-Sowerby | Kirkland | Myerscough |
| Nateby | Nether Wyresdale | Upper Rawcliffe- |
| | Winmarleigh | with-Tarnacre |

School Clinics, Tuberculosis Dispensary and Venereal Disease Treatment Centres are under the administration of the County Council.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, S.47.

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Number of applications made during the year | ... | ... | Nil |
| Number of Orders made | ... | ... | Nil |

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Swabs, specimens of sputum, etc., and samples of milk, ice-cream, water, and other foods for bacteriological and biological examination are taken to the pathological departments of Blackpool Victoria Hospital and Preston Royal Infirmary.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Lancashire County Council provide for a twenty-four hour free service and undertake the conveyance of all persons suffering from any type of sickness, disease or disability who, in the main, need vehicles of a special type and trained personnel to care for them during the journey to hospitals, or clinics, or to their homes in any part of the country.

The present arrangement is that the Divisional Ambulance Station for Hambleton, Stalmine and Out-Rawcliffe is situate at Thornton-Cleveleys, whilst the Ambulance Station for the remaining parishes of the Rural District is stationed at Garstang.

The undermentioned figures supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health show the number of persons conveyed and the mileage involved during 1951.

| | | <i>Garstang</i> | <i>Thornton</i> | <i>Wesham</i> |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---|---------------|
| Number of Vehicles : | | | | |
| Ambulances | | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Cars | | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Whole-time Staff : | | 13 | 14 | 13 |
| Cases : | Emergency & General | 3,464 | } Separate figures for Hambleton, Stal- mine and Out Rawcliffe are not available. | |
| | Infectious Diseases | 2 | | |
| Mileage: | Emergency | 7,488 | | |
| | General | 59,564 | | |
| | Infectious Diseases | 65 | | |

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The domiciliary nursing and midwifery services are the province of the County Council and appear to be satisfactory.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION AND TREATMENT.

Hospital accommodation is provided by the Ministry of Health. No delay has been experienced in the admission of urgent cases to hospital, but there still exists a long waiting period for non-emergency cases—this appears to be common in other areas.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1951.

COUNCIL OFFICES,

GARSTANG

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Garstang Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Sanitary Circumstances of your District for the year 1951.

WATER SUPPLY.

The bulk of the water is supplied to the district by the Fylde Water Board, and is upland surface water of excellent quality. No complaints as to the quality of this water were received during the year. In general, the major part of the District is adequately supplied either from this source or from two small private supplies. The remainder of the houses, approximately 190, derive their source of supply from wells and springs.

Thirty-five samples of water were obtained from private supplies with the following results :—

BACTERIOLOGICAL : 24 —

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Satisfactory | 17 |
| Moderately satisfactory | 3 |
| Unsatisfactory | 4 |

CHEMICAL : 11 —

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Satisfactory | 6 |
| Unsatisfactory | 5 |

In the case of the unsatisfactory supplies and where a mains supply is not economically possible, thorough investigation as to possible pollution is made and where necessary, repairs and alterations are carried out.

During the year, thirteen farms and dwelling-houses, including a grant-aided scheme to The Heads, Stalmine, were connected to the Fylde Water Board's mains.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The Council undertake the removal of domestic refuse in all twenty parishes.

The arrangements for collection consist of one Dennis ten cubic yard and one Bedford 7 cubic yard refuse collection vehicle manned by six loaders, inclusive of drivers.

Every endeavour is made with the limited number of vehicles, men, and covering material, to dispose of the refuse with as little nuisance as possible.

During the year, the Council decided to accept an offer to fill in certain gravel workings at Scorton in order to assist the owners in reclaiming the land for agriculture, and to close the tip at Garstang, which is in close proximity to the Council's housing estate.

On account of the long haul to the gravel works an additional refuse collecting vehicle would be required before this scheme could be operated and one 10 cubic yard Bedford was placed on order, but delivery of same was still awaited at the end of the year.

SALVAGE.

1951 showed not only a record in the amount of salvage collected, but in the proceeds from the sale of the materials, namely, £1,294 19s. 10d., which is equivalent to over a 4d. rate.

The amounts for the preceding years are as follows :—

| | | | <i>Paper</i> | | | <i>Rags, etc.</i> | | |
|------|-----|-----|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | | <i>Tons</i> | <i>Cwts.</i> | <i>Qrs.</i> | <i>Tons</i> | <i>Cwts.</i> | <i>Qrs.</i> |
| 1944 | ... | ... | 36 | 10 | 0 | 3 | 7 | 1 |
| 1945 | ... | ... | 24 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 0 |
| 1946 | ... | ... | 30 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| 1947 | ... | ... | 35 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 3 |
| 1948 | ... | ... | 35 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| 1949 | ... | ... | 31 | 16 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 0 |
| 1950 | ... | ... | 44 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 14 | 0 |
| 1951 | ... | ... | 69 | 13 | 3 | 2 | 17 | 0 |

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The work in connection with the Garstang Sewerage Scheme for Garstang, parts of the Parishes of Barnacre, Cabus, Catterall, Cloughton, and Churchtown continued during the year. Progress was retarded owing to labour difficulties and the contractors encountering "running sand." By the end of the year, approximately 8 miles of sewers had been laid and some 75% of the disposal works at Churchtown had been completed.

At Calder Vale, in the Parish of Barnacre-with-Bonds, the remainder of the privies were converted to fresh-water closets and connected to the Council's sewer.

Thirty-four privy closets and six pail closets were converted to fresh-water closets during the year.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION (at end of 1951)

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Number of middens | ... | ... | ... | 92 |
| Number of closets attached thereto | ... | ... | ... | 99 |
| Number of pail closets | ... | ... | ... | 653 |
| Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens) | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Number of moveable dustbins | ... | ... | ... | 3245 |
| Number of trough closets | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Number of waste water closets | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Number of fresh water closets | ... | ... | ... | 3389 |

The following is a summary of the inspections carried out during the year :—

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Ash-pits | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Bakehouses | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22 |
| Butchers' Shops | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25 |
| Cafes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38 |
| Dairies | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Dirty Houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Disinfections | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Drains and Sewers | ... | ... | ... | ... | 62 |
| Dust Bins | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25 |
| Factories | ... | ... | ... | ... | 206 |
| Food preparation premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | 51 |
| Food Poisoning | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | 263 |
| Houses (Council) | ... | ... | ... | ... | 45 |
| Houses, applications | ... | ... | ... | ... | 458 |
| Ice-cream premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | 64 |
| Infectious diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Knacker's Yard | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| Market | ... | ... | ... | ... | 50 |
| Moveable dwellings | ... | ... | ... | ... | 227 |
| Manure, Accumulation of | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Petroleum Regulations | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 |
| Piggeries | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Public Cleansing | ... | ... | ... | ... | 157 |
| Public Houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Rag Flock | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Rodent Control | ... | ... | ... | ... | 45 |
| Schools | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Shops | ... | ... | ... | ... | 170 |
| Salvage | ... | ... | ... | ... | 86 |
| Streams and Ditches | ... | ... | ... | ... | 35 |
| Closets : Pails and Privies | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Conversions | ... | ... | ... | ... | 128 |
| Septic Tanks | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23 |
| Verminous premises, suspected | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Water supplies | ... | ... | ... | ... | 35 |

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Food preparing premises of all types were inspected during the year and have generally been found to be satisfactory.

The Council have adopted the Ministry's Bye-laws in connection with the " Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, and Sale of Food in the Open Air."

No outbreaks of food poisoning were reported during the year.

All meat consumed in the Rural District is obtained from Preston, Blackpool and Lancaster ; there are no slaughterhouses in the district since private slaughterhouses were closed in 1940.

A large number of pigs are slaughtered under Ministry of Food licence for consumption by their owners, but no liability exists for the owners to notify time and place of slaughter and these carcasses are not generally inspected.

There is one licensed knacker's yard in the district, situated in the parish of Catterall. The premises are regularly inspected and have been found satisfactory.

The following food was surrendered after inspection and found unfit for human consumption :—

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Fruit, various | ... | ... | ... | 28 tins |
| Ham | ... | ... | ... | 25 „ |
| Jellied Veal | ... | ... | ... | 3 „ |
| Pork Luncheon Meat | ... | ... | ... | 1 „ |
| Bacon | ... | ... | ... | 15½ lbs. |
| Beef | ... | ... | ... | 41 „ |
| Pigs, carcasses | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Pig plucks | ... | ... | ... | 12 |

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

By the courtesy of the County Medical Officer of Health, the following particulars of samples taken by the County Council during the year 1951 are given :

| <i>Description of Samples</i> | <i>No. taken</i> | <i>Description of Samples</i> | <i>No. taken</i> |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Apple juice | 1 | Milk | 294 |
| Arrowroot | 2 | Mince pies | 1 |
| Barley | 1 | Olive Oil | 2 |
| Blancmange Powder | 2 | Pepper, white | 2 |
| Camphorated Oil | 1 | Pork Sausage | 1 |
| Cheese | 3 | Semolina | 2 |
| Double Cream | 3 | Sauce | 2 |
| Glycerin & Borax | 1 | Table Jelly | 2 |
| Glycerin | 3 | Tinc. of Iodine | 2 |
| Ground Almonds | 1 | Tomato Ketchup | 1 |
| Ice Cream | 11 | | |

All the above samples, with the exception of thirty, were certified as genuine. In only one case was it found necessary to take court action, namely, for one sample of milk which was 6% deficient in fat and contained 7.4% extraneous water. The vendor was fined £1 0s. 0d. and £4 0s. 0d. costs.

MILK SUPPLY.

Practically all the milk consumed in the area is produced within the Rural District.

Regular sampling of all supplies are carried out for biological and bacteriological examination and the following show the results of the samples taken :

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| RAW MILK | <i>No. of samples</i> | <i>No. Positive</i> | <i>No. Negative</i> |
| Tuberculosis | 76 | 23 | 74 3 |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| | <i>No. of Samples</i> | <i>No. Satisfactory</i> | <i>No. Unsatisfactory</i> |
| Bacteriological Methylene Blue | 103 | 70 | 33 |

HEAT TREATED MILK :

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| | <i>No. of Samples</i> | <i>No. Satisfactory</i> | <i>No. Unsatisfactory</i> |
| Phosphatase Test | 3 | 3 | ... |
| Methylene Blue Test | 3 | 3 | ... |

Number of notifications of tuberculosis milk forwarded to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in respect of milk produced in the district ... 3

Results of Ministry investigations during the year arising from notifications by the local authority :

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Number of veterinary inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| „ „ cases where animals siezed under Tuberculosis Order, 1938 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| „ „ animals seized | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| „ „ cases reported negative where animals had been sold prior to investigation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0 |
| „ „ cases reported negative, no animals seized | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

There are two pasteurising plants within the area which are licensed by the County Council.

All milk supplied to the schools in the district is either T.T., or Pasteurised. Sixteen samples were obtained by the County Council and all were found to be either efficiently pasteurised or free from tuberculosis.

ICE CREAM.

The number of premises registered for the manufacture and sale of Ice Cream is as follows :

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Manufacture and Sale | ... | ... | 7 |
| Sale only | ... | ... | 38 |

During the year, 156 samples of Ice Cream were taken. Each vendor was notified of his grading, and in the case of those vendors whose samples fell below grade 2, a special visit was made and equipment inspected and instruction given as to hygienic methods of control. A further sample was later taken and this procedure was repeated until samples from that vendor were satisfactory.

Analysis of the 156 samples show the following :—

| | | | | | | | |
|---------|----|---------------------------------------|---|-------|---|---|---|
| Grade 1 | 77 | samples or 49·4% of the total samples | | | | | |
| 2 | 40 | „ | „ | 25·7% | „ | „ | „ |
| 3 | 17 | „ | „ | 10·9% | „ | „ | „ |
| 4 | 22 | „ | „ | 14·0% | „ | „ | „ |

Of the 156 samples examined 99 were of ice-cream manufactured outside the Rural District and 57 were from ice-cream manufactured within the district. The following is a table showing the respective grading :—

| | | | <i>Made out of district</i> | | <i>Made within district</i> |
|---------|-----|-----|---------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|
| Grade 1 | ... | ... | 47 | ... | 30 |
| 2 | ... | ... | 26 | ... | 14 |
| 3 | ... | ... | 12 | ... | 5 |
| 4 | ... | ... | 14 | ... | 8 |
| | | | — | | — |
| | | | 99 | | 57 |
| | | | — | | — |

Four samples of ice lollies were taken, all of which were free from B. Coli.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Number of licensed caravan sites — 17.

Number of licences issued during 1951 for individual caravans — 25.

The number of caravans stationed in the district shows an increase over the previous year.

There are approximately 150 caravans, chalets, etc., with 317 occupants, which are being used permanently as homes.

All licensed caravan sites, with one exception, which has a private supply, have public water supplies and the majority of the sites are provided with fresh-water closets to septic tanks. Several improvements have taken place during the year.

Few complaints were received during 1951.

SHOPS.

One-hundred-and-seventy inspections were carried out.

The majority of the shops in the area are mostly family concerns, employing few or no assistants. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

SCHOOLS.

There are in the Rural District 22 schools accommodating approximately 1,380 children of both sexes. In general, the external fabric of the buildings is good, in only a few cases are external repairs necessary.

The lighting and ventilation, except for a few isolated classrooms, are generally good.

In most schools some form of central heating is provided, sometimes augmented by open fires and slow combustion stoves. Some of the latter need repair or replacement by some modern form of heating. Six schools have no central heating.

Nineteen schools are provided with water from the Fylde Water Board and three from private supplies.

In some cases the yard surfaces are rough, uneven and defective on which rain lodges in wet weather and the surfaces are muddy, whilst in dry weather clouds of dust are raised by the feet of the children during recreation.

The sanitary accommodation at the schools consists of :

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Fresh-water closets | ... | ... | 16 |
| Trough closets | ... | ... | 1 |
| Pail closets | ... | ... | 4 |
| Privy closets | ... | ... | 1 |

Schemes are in hand for the conversion of the lavatories to fresh-water closets at 3 of the schools.

School meals are provided from the school kitchens at Bilsborrow, Garstang and Fleetwood, which are under the control of the County Council.

HOUSING.

Number of dwelling houses erected during the year :

| | |
|---|----|
| (a) Total, including numbers given separately under (b) | 79 |
| (i) By Local Authority | 68 |
| (ii) By other Local Authorities | — |
| (iii) By other bodies or persons | 11 |
| (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts : | |
| (i) By Local Authority | 68 |
| (ii) By other bodies or persons | — |

Since 1945, 346 houses have been erected, of which 276 were Council houses and the remaining 70 for private use.

The Council's housing register revealed at the 31st December, 1951, that there were 345 outstanding applications for Council houses. These were made up as follows :—

143 from persons living in rooms.

31 from persons living in moveable dwellings.

162 from tenants of houses.

9 open applications.

All applicants, who reside within the area, are visited at their place of residence and in addition all applicants are given the opportunity of an interview. Although this work entails a considerable amount of time it is generally found that the time spent has served a useful purpose.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year—*

| | |
|---|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 202 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... | 263 |
| (2) (a) Number of houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 | 47 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... | 62 |
| (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 11 |
| (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation | 36 |

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.*

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers | 30 |
|--|----|

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year.*

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices : | |
| (a) By owners | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices : | |
| (a) By owners | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 2 |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in which Closing Orders were made ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil |

E.—Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :

Without carrying out a detailed survey of every house in the district, it is not possible to give with exactitude the number of houses which are overcrowded. Seven cases are, however, known to be overcrowded.

During the year, several cases were rehoused by the Council.

Housing Act, 1949 :

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Number of schemes submitted | ... | ... | Nil |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|

FACORIES.

1.—Inspection of Factories.

| No. on Register | Inspections | Written Notices | Prosecutions |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 97 | 206 | 2 | Nil |

OUTWORKERS.

| <i>Nature of work</i> | <i>No. on Register.</i> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Making of Wearing Apparel | 1 |

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

| Particulars | Defects Found | Defects Remedied | Referred by H.M. Inspector | Prosecutions |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Want of cleanliness ... | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Overcrowding ... | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperature ... | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate ventilation ... | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors | — | — | — | — |

Sanitary Conveniences :

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| (a) insufficient ... | 2 | 2 | 2 | — |
| (b) unsuitable or defective | 5 | 5 | 1 | — |
| (c) not separate for sexes | — | — | — | — |
| Other offences ... | — | — | — | — |

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council engage one whole-time rodent operative to carry out the functions under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

During the year, 1,520 inspections were carried out and 579 properties treated for rats and mice.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere thanks to the chief officials and members of the staff for their great assistance, and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for all their support during the year.

I am, Yours faithfully,

A. SMITHSON,

Sanitary Inspector.

